

# **PRAIRIE CHICKEN & SHARP-TAILED GROUSE**

Historically, these two species, plus ruffed grouse, have been combined under the name "Prairie Grouse." In these reports, harvest estimates for these species were combined. Prior to 2006, it had been estimated that sharptails probably make up 60% of the prairie grouse harvest; ruffed grouse are almost inconsequential due to the numbers harvested. However, in 2006, hunters were asked specifically how many of each species were harvested of the total harvest and 76% were identified as sharp-tailed grouse, 20% as prairie chickens, and 4% were unknown. . They continue to be combined for the overall harvest estimates in this report.

The 2008 grouse season covered 20 September 2008 - 4 January 2009 statewide (except Lacreek National Wildlife Refuge where the season didn't open until 18 October). Harvest surveys were sent to both resident and nonresident hunters. The daily limit was 3 birds, possession 15. To hunt grouse residents were required to hold a small game, 1-day small game, adult or junior combination, or youth small game license; nonresidents were required to obtain the nonresident small game, the nonresident youth small game, or nonresident shooting preserve license. No shooting preserve license holders were surveyed and none of their harvest is included in the data in this report.

In 2008, there were 95,003 resident and 104,899 nonresident licenses issued that allowed holders to hunt grouse. Approximately 8% of residents and nonresidents were surveyed for the upland bird seasons. Survey response rates were 68.6% for residents and 71.1% for nonresidents.

Based on survey responses indicating at least one day of hunting grouse, there were a projected 7,044 resident and 5,383 nonresident grouse hunters.

From the survey responses, a projected total of 47,481 grouse were harvested (34,023 by residents, 13,458 by nonresidents) during the 2008 season.

When asked their satisfaction on the season, (1 being very dissatisfied, and 7 being very satisfied), resident upland bird hunters reported an average rating of 5.31 while nonresidents reported a satisfaction rating of 5.86.

## **A comparison of the 1999 - 2008 prairie grouse harvests**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Resident Hunters</b>					<b>Nonresident Hunters</b>				
	<b>Number Hunters</b>	<b>Harvest</b>	<b>Ave Day Hunted</b>	<b>Ave Bag</b>	<b>Satisfaction</b>	<b>Number Hunters</b>	<b>Harvest</b>	<b>Ave Day Hunted</b>	<b>Ave Bag</b>	<b>Satisfaction</b>
1999	13,143	64,401	4.72	4.90	4.60	5,638	21,875	4.15	3.88	5.33
2000	12,369	100,807	5.75	8.15	4.71	4,841	20,139	4.20	4.16	5.20
2001	10,852	53,392	4.80	4.92	4.55	4,943	16,411	4.11	3.32	5.23
2002	8,644	29,649	4.37	3.43	4.17	4,963	11,762	4.32	2.37	5.76
2003	9,478	37,249	4.05	3.93	4.88	6,058	14,660	3.84	2.42	5.53
2004	7,859	27,821	4.12	3.54	4.81	3,655	11,367	4.04	3.11	5.39
2005	7,508	33,561	4.58	4.47	5.19	5,806	17,302	3.85	2.98	5.83
2006	7,836	27,269	4.02	3.48	4.99	6,135	13,620	3.92	2.22	5.71
2007	6,164	23,177	4.37	3.76	5.39	4,663	10,865	3.70	2.33	6.00
2008	7,044	34,023	4.46	4.83	5.31	5,383	13,458	4.26	2.50	5.86

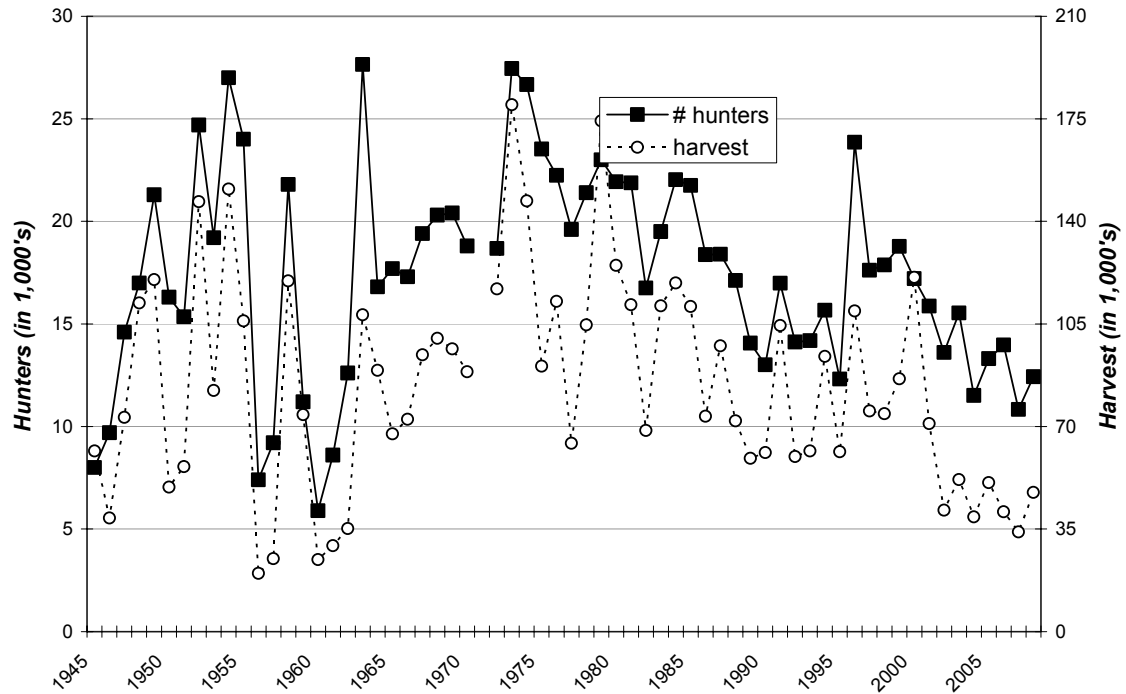
# **PRAIRIE GROUSE HARVEST PROJECTIONS FOR 2008**

Revised: 27 April 09

	RESIDENT TOTALS BY LICENSE TYPE					NONRESIDENT TOTALS		
	Small Game	Combo	Junior Combo	Youth SmGm	Sum Estimates	Nonres Sm Game	Youth Sm Game	Sum Estimates
<b>Licenses Sold</b>	35,754	44,077	7,878	7,294	<b>95,003</b>	101,510	3,389	<b>104,899</b>
<b>Projected ACTIVE UPLAND BIRD HUNTERS</b>	<b>30,720</b>	<b>33,871</b>	<b>5,275</b>	<b>6,450</b>	<b>76,118</b>	<b>97,292</b>	<b>3,204</b>	<b>100,496</b>
Number Sampled by Survey	2,682	3,542	633	605	<b>7,462</b>	7,471	242	<b>7,713</b>
Number Responded to Survey	1,726	2,656	345	389	<b>5,116</b>	5,329	153	<b>5,482</b>
Responded and Participated in Season	<b>1,483</b>	<b>2,041</b>	<b>231</b>	<b>344</b>	<b>4,099</b>	<b>5,236</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>5,383</b>
Responded but DID NOT HUNT	243	615	114	45	<b>1,017</b>	93	6	<b>99</b>
<b>Survey Response Rate</b>	<b>64.4%</b>	<b>75.0%</b>	<b>54.5%</b>	<b>64.3%</b>	<b>68.6%</b>	<b>71.3%</b>	<b>63.2%</b>	<b>71.1%</b>
No. Hunters Reporting Grouse Days	90	261	15	27	<b>393</b>	285	4	<b>289</b>
Sum Grouse Hunted Days	392	1,154	82	123	<b>1,751</b>	1,221	10	<b>1,231</b>
Average Days Hunted Grouse	<b>4.36</b>	<b>4.42</b>	<b>5.47</b>	<b>4.56</b>	<b>4.46</b>	<b>4.28</b>	<b>2.50</b>	<b>4.26</b>
Sum Grouse Bagged	495	1,220	94	89	<b>1,898</b>	714	9	<b>723</b>
Average Season Grouse Bag	<b>5.50</b>	<b>4.67</b>	<b>6.27</b>	<b>3.30</b>	<b>4.83</b>	<b>2.51</b>	<b>2.25</b>	<b>2.50</b>
<b>Projected Days Grouse Hunting</b>	<b>8,127</b>	<b>19,143</b>	<b>1,876</b>	<b>2,307</b>	<b>31,416</b>	<b>22,667</b>	<b>218</b>	<b>22,932</b>
<b>Projected No. Grouse Hunters</b>	<b>1,864</b>	<b>4,331</b>	<b>343</b>	<b>506</b>	<b>7,044</b>	<b>5,296</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>5,383</b>
<b>Projected Grouse Bag</b>	<b>10,252</b>	<b>20,226</b>	<b>2,151</b>	<b>1,670</b>	<b>34,023</b>	<b>13,293</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>13,458</b>
<b>TOTAL GROUSE HARVEST =</b>						<b>47,481</b>		
<b>Upland Bird Hunters Mean Satisfaction Score *</b>	5.25	5.35	5.31	5.31	5.31	5.86	5.87	5.86

\* Based on scale of 1-7 with 1="very dissatisfied" and 7="very satisfied"

## **PRAIRIE GROUSE HUNTERS & HARVEST 1945-2008**



## Resident Grouse Harvest Distribution by County 2008

COUNTY	HUNTER DISTRIBUTION				HARVEST DISTRIBUTION				Birds/Hunter
	# Reported	# Projected	% of Total	# Proj w/ Unk *	# Reported	# Projected	% of Total	# Proj w/ Unk *	
Minnehaha	3	54	0.8	58	2	36	0.1	39	0.7
Pennington	24	430	6.6	463	95	1,703	5.4	1,831	4.0
Brown	2	36	0.6	39	2	36	0.1	39	1.0
Beadle	3	54	0.8	58	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Codington	5	90	1.4	97	6	108	0.3	116	1.2
Brookings	1	18	0.3	19	1	18	0.1	19	1.0
Yankton	1	18	0.3	19	1	18	0.1	19	1.0
Davison	1	18	0.3	19	12	215	0.7	231	11.9
Lawrence	1	18	0.3	19	4	72	0.2	77	4.0
Aurora	3	54	0.8	58	6	108	0.3	116	2.0
Bennett	6	108	1.7	116	41	735	2.3	790	6.8
Bon Homme	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Brule	4	72	1.1	78	21	376	1.2	404	5.2
Buffalo	1	18	0.3	19	1	18	0.1	19	1.0
Butte	4	72	1.1	78	33	592	1.9	637	8.2
Campbell	3	54	0.8	58	7	125	0.4	134	2.3
Charles Mix	6	108	1.7	116	11	197	0.6	212	1.8
Clark	1	18	0.3	19	6	108	0.3	116	6.0
Clay	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Corson	7	125	1.9	135	64	1,147	3.6	1,233	9.2
Custer	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Day	5	90	1.4	97	8	143	0.5	154	1.6
Deuel	4	72	1.1	78	8	143	0.5	154	2.0
Dewey	13	233	3.6	251	126	2,259	7.1	2,429	9.7
Douglas	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Edmunds	6	108	1.7	116	16	287	0.9	309	2.7
Fall River	1	18	0.3	19	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Faulk	1	18	0.3	19	1	18	0.1	19	1.0
Grant	3	54	0.8	58	1	18	0.1	19	0.3
Gregory	15	269	4.1	290	47	843	2.7	907	3.1
Haakon	19	341	5.2	367	55	986	3.1	1,060	2.9
Hamlin	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Hand	3	54	0.8	58	2	36	0.1	39	0.7
Hanson	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Harding	8	143	2.2	154	30	538	1.7	579	3.8
Hughes	13	233	3.6	251	64	1,147	3.6	1,233	4.9
Hutchinson	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Hyde	2	36	0.6	39	2	36	0.1	39	1.0
Jackson	4	72	1.1	78	47	843	2.7	907	11.7
Jerauld	1	18	0.3	19	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Jones	5	90	1.4	97	30	538	1.7	579	6.0
Kingsbury	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Lake	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Lincoln	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Lyman	31	556	8.5	599	143	2,563	8.1	2,756	4.6
McCook	3	54	0.8	58	8	143	0.5	154	2.6
McPherson	4	72	1.1	78	23	412	1.3	443	5.7
Marshall	3	54	0.8	58	3	54	0.2	58	1.0
Meade	16	287	4.4	309	91	1,631	5.2	1,754	5.7
Mellette	17	305	4.7	328	95	1,703	5.4	1,831	5.6
Miner	1	18	0.3	19	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Moody	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Perkins	24	430	6.6	463	173	3,101	9.8	3,335	7.2
Potter	8	143	2.2	154	41	735	2.3	790	5.1
Roberts	3	54	0.8	58	19	341	1.1	367	6.3
Sanborn	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Spink	1	18	0.3	19	2	36	0.1	39	2.0
Stanley	33	591	9.0	636	207	3,711	11.7	3,991	6.3
Sully	3	54	0.8	58	12	215	0.7	231	4.0
Tripp	13	233	3.6	251	43	771	2.4	829	3.3
Turner	1	18	0.3	19	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Union	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Walworth	10	179	2.7	193	34	609	1.9	655	3.4
Ziebach	11	197	3.0	212	78	1,398	4.4	1,503	7.1
Shannon	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Todd	4	72	1.1	78	43	771	2.4	829	10.7
Unknown	28	502	-	-	133	2,384	-	-	4.7
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>393</b>	<b>7,044</b>	<b>100.6%</b>	<b>7,049</b>	<b>1,898</b>	<b>34,023</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>34,024</b>	<b>4.83</b>

Last Revised: 16 April 09

\* Includes unknown county projection values by assuming unknown county values are distributed the same as reported county values. Total values may be different due to rounding.

\*\* Calculation uses "# projected" values without correction for unknown/unreported county values.

## Nonresident Grouse Harvest Distribution by County 2008

COUNTY	HUNTER DISTRIBUTION				HARVEST DISTRIBUTION				Birds/Hunter
	# Reported	# Projected	% of Total	# Proj w/ Unk *	# Reported	# Projected	% of Total	# Proj w/ Unk *	
Minnehaha	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Pennington	1	19	0.4	20	2	37	0.3	40	1.9
Brown	4	75	1.5	81	7	130	1.0	139	1.7
Beadle	4	75	1.5	81	1	19	0.2	20	0.3
Codington	3	56	1.1	60	5	93	0.7	100	1.7
Brookings	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Yankton	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Davison	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Lawrence	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Aurora	1	19	0.4	20	1	19	0.2	20	1.0
Bennett	3	56	1.1	60	12	223	1.8	239	4.0
Bon Homme	1	19	0.4	20	4	74	0.6	79	3.9
Brule	8	149	3.0	160	7	130	1.0	139	0.9
Buffalo	3	56	1.1	60	4	74	0.6	79	1.3
Butte	1	19	0.4	20	6	112	0.9	120	5.9
Campbell	7	130	2.6	140	22	410	3.3	440	3.2
Chas Mix	4	75	1.5	81	7	130	1.0	139	1.7
Clark	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Clay	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Corson	5	93	1.9	100	24	447	3.6	479	4.8
Custer	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Day	5	93	1.9	100	7	130	1.0	139	1.4
Deuel	1	19	0.4	20	2	37	0.3	40	1.9
Dewey	12	224	4.5	241	47	875	7.0	939	3.9
Douglas	1	19	0.4	20	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Edmunds	2	37	0.7	40	2	37	0.3	40	1.0
Fall River	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Faulk	10	186	3.7	200	15	279	2.2	299	1.5
Grant	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Gregory	18	335	6.7	360	34	633	5.0	679	1.9
Haakon	3	56	1.1	60	9	168	1.3	180	3.0
Hamlin	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Hand	3	56	1.1	60	4	74	0.6	79	1.3
Hanson	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Harding	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Hughes	23	428	8.5	460	43	800	6.4	858	1.9
Hutchinson	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Hyde	3	56	1.1	60	7	130	1.0	139	2.3
Jackson	1	19	0.4	20	6	112	0.9	120	5.9
Jerauld	5	93	1.9	100	4	74	0.6	79	0.8
Jones	12	224	4.5	241	38	707	5.6	758	3.2
Kingsbury	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Lake	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Lincoln	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Lyman	31	577	11.5	620	84	1,564	12.5	1,678	2.7
McCook	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
McPherson	13	242	4.8	260	18	335	2.7	359	1.4
Marshall	1	19	0.4	20	2	37	0.3	40	1.9
Meade	3	56	1.1	60	6	112	0.9	120	2.0
Mellette	3	56	1.1	60	9	168	1.3	180	3.0
Miner	2	37	0.7	40	4	74	0.6	79	2.0
Moody	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Perkins	7	130	2.6	140	21	391	3.1	419	3.0
Potter	4	75	1.5	81	7	130	1.0	139	1.7
Roberts	1	19	0.4	20	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Sanborn	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Spink	2	37	0.7	40	1	19	0.2	20	0.5
Stanley	14	261	5.2	280	102	1,899	15.1	2,037	7.3
Sully	5	93	1.9	100	10	186	1.5	200	2.0
Tripp	31	577	11.5	620	57	1,061	8.5	1,138	1.8
Turner	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Union	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Walworth	7	130	2.6	140	28	521	4.2	559	4.0
Ziebach	1	19	0.4	20	5	93	0.7	100	4.9
Shannon	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Todd	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Unknown	20	373	-	-	49	912	-	-	2.4
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>289</b>	<b>5,383</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>5,386</b>	<b>723</b>	<b>13,458</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>13,450</b>	<b>2.50</b>

Last Revised: 16 April 09

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